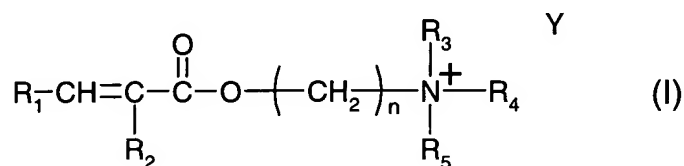


IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended): A copolymer derived from the emulsion polymerization of

(a) ~~a at least one~~ cationic monomer of formula (I),



wherein

R₁ is hydrogen or methyl,

R₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄alkyl,

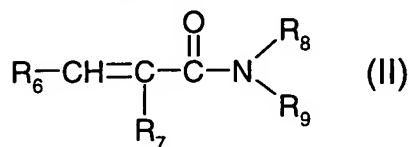
R₃, R₄ and R₅ are independently from each other hydrogen or C₁-C₄alkyl,

n is a integer from 1 – 5, and

Y is a counterion,

and

(b) ~~a at least one~~ monomer of formula (II)



wherein

R₆ signifies hydrogen or methyl,

R₇ signifies hydrogen or methyl, and

[[R₇,][R₈ and R₉ signify independently from each other hydrogen or C₁-C₄alkyl,

with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R₆, [[R₇,][R₈ and R₉ is

C₁-C₄alkyl,

and

(c) optionally at least one cross-linking agent, which contains at least two ethylenically unsaturated moieties.

2. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 1 characterized in that it consists of

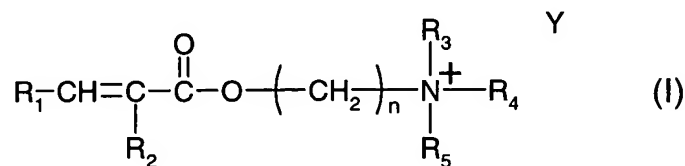
20 – 95 wt-% of ~~a at least one~~ monomer of formula (I) and of

5 – 50 wt-% of ~~a at least one~~ monomer of formula (II).

3. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 1 characterized in that it consists of 40 – 90 wt-% of ~~at least one~~ monomer of formula (I) and of 10 – 40 wt-% of ~~at least one~~ monomer of formula (II).
4. (previously presented): A copolymer according to claim 1 characterized in that the copolymer comprises 50 – 500 ppm of at least one cross-linking agent based on the total amount of the copolymer.
5. (previously presented): A copolymer according to claim 1 characterized in that

R_1 is hydrogen or methyl,
 R_2 is hydrogen or methyl,
 R_3, R_4 and R_5 are independently from each other hydrogen or methyl,
 n is an integer from 1 – 4, and
 Y is Cl; Br; I; hydrogensulfate or methosulfate.
6. (currently amended): A copolymer according to claim 1 characterized in that

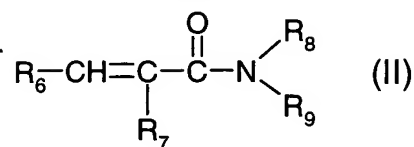
R_6 signifies hydrogen or methyl,
 R_7 signifies hydrogen or methyl, and
 R_8 signifies hydrogen or methyl, and
 R_9 signifies hydrogen or methyl,
 with the proviso that at least one of the substituents $R_6, [(R_7,)R_8$ and R_9 is methyl.
7. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 1 derived from the polymerization of
 - (a) a cationic monomer of formula (I),



wherein

R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4 and R_5 are independently from each other hydrogen or methyl,
 n is 1, 2 or 3, and
 Y is a counterion, and

(b) a monomer of formula (II)



wherein

R₆ signifies hydrogen or methyl, R₇ signifies hydrogen or methyl,

R₈ signifies hydrogen or methyl, and

R₉ signifies hydrogen or methyl,

with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R₆, R₇, R₈ and R₉ is methyl,

and

(c) optionally at least one cross-linking agent selected from the group consisting of tetra allyl ammonium chloride; allyl-acrylamides and allyl-methacrylamides; bisacrylamidoacetic acid and N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide,.

8. (currently amended): A copolymer according to Claim 7 derived from the polymerization of 20 – 95 wt-% of ~~at least one~~ cationic monomer of formula (I), and

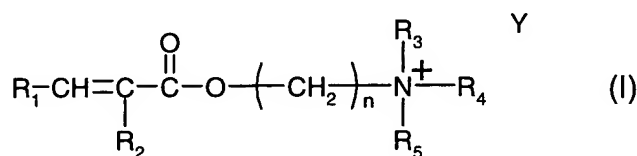
5 – 50 wt-% of ~~at least one~~ monomer of formula (II)

and

50 – 500 ppm (based on the total amount of monomers) of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of tetra allyl ammonium chloride; allyl-acrylamides and allyl-methacrylamides; bisacrylamidoacetic acid and N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide .

9. (previously presented): A copolymer according to Claim 1 derived from the polymerization of

(a) 40 – 90 wt-% of a cationic monomer of formula (I),



wherein

R₁ and R₂ are hydrogen,

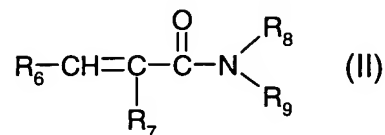
R₃, R₄ and R₅ are methyl,

n is 1, 2 or 3, and

Y is Cl; Br; I; hydrogensulfate or methosulfate,

and

- (b) 10 – 40 wt-% of a monomer of formula (II)



wherein

R₆ and R₇ signify hydrogen,

R₈ and R₉ signify methyl,

and

- (c) 100 – 300 ppm of tetra allyl ammonium chloride and/or N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide.
10. (previously presented): A method of preparing a water- and/or oil-based personal care composition which comprises incorporation of a copolymer according to claim 1 into said composition.
11. (currently amended): An oil/water- based personal care composition which comprises:
0.5 – 10 wt-% of at least one copolymer according to Claim 1,
2 – 25 wt-% of at least one oil-component,
0 – 25 wt-% of at least one adjuvant and/or additive, and
water up to 100 wt-%.
12. (previously presented): An oil-based personal care composition which comprises
0.5 – 10 wt-% of at least one copolymer according to Claim 1,
50 – 99 wt-% of at least one oil-component, and
0 – 25 wt-% of at least one adjuvant and/or additive.
13. (previously presented): A copolymer according to claim 5 characterized in that
R₁ is hydrogen,
R₂ is hydrogen,
R₃, R₄ and R₅ are methyl,
n is an integer from 1 – 4, and
Y is Cl; Br; I; hydrogensulfate or methosulfate.
14. (currently amended): A copolymer according to claim 6 characterized in that

R₆ signifies hydrogen,
R₇ signifies hydrogen, and
R₈ signifies hydrogen or methyl, and
R₉ signifies hydrogen or methyl,
with the proviso that at least one of the substituents R₈ and R₉ is
methyl.

15. (currently amended): A copolymer according to claim 8 derived from the polymerization of
40 – 90 wt-% of ~~at least one~~ cationic monomer of formula (I),
and
10 – 40 wt-% of ~~at least one~~ monomer of formula (II)
and
100 – 300 ppm (based on the total amount of monomers) of at least one compound selected
from the group consisting of tetra allyl ammonium chloride and N,N'-methylene-bisacrylamide.